

File

OCT 1 1971

RD #2

Rexford, New York 12148
September 29, 1971

Union College
Alumni Office
Schenectady, New York 12308

Dear Sir:

According to the diary of my husband's great, great grandfather David Garnsey, he was a student at Union College in 1802. 1800.

Do you have any record of his attendance or graduation?

I would appreciate receiving any information you might share with me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Ann W. Caldwell
(Mrs. Emmor B. Caldwell)

374-9415

Material sent 3rd class 10/1/71
J.W.

Garnsey in reg. bk.

CLASS OF 1800.

DAVID GARNSEY.

Son of Nathan Garnsey.

Married Esther Rogers in 1806 and had ten children.

History of Saratoga Co., N. Y. p. 482
N. B. Sylvester
Philadelphia 1878.

He served for a time as school commissioner of the town after the passage of the general school law in 1812.

Our County and Its People p. 148
1899.

OXFORD ROAD
U.S.A.

DAVID GARNSEY, non-graduate of 1800, of Clifton Park, N.Y., was a member of the Adelpic Society. He died in 1831
Adelpic Catalogue 1830

Faculty minutes

Sept. 3, 1799

David Guernsey who attended to part of science, having accomplished what he designed for the present has not returned after the vacation

1800

DAVID GARNSEY

Died: In New Haven, Conn., on the 9th.
inst., Miss Nancy H. Garnsey, aged 36
years, of Clifton Park, Saratoga County,
and daughter of the late David Garnsey.-

Daily Albany Argus, Aug. 25, 1842.

1800

DAVID GARNSEY

David Garnsey of Saratoga county was nominated for Congress by the Anti-Masonic party in 1830.

Albany Argus
Sept. 15, 1830.

DIARY OF DAVID GARNSEY

CLASS OF 1800.

Original in possession of the following:

Mrs. Lillian G. Lavery
Wallace P. Garnsey
Dr. Nathan D. Garnsey

Round Lake, N.Y.
Round Lake, N.Y.
Kinderhook, N.Y.

FROM: His Diary.

Aug. 21st. 1796:-I went to Schenectady to find upon what conditions I might study in the college, and to know where I could board. My brother went with me to provide for me and we found everything as good and accommodating as we expected but a little dearer, and it was concluded I should go there before many weeks and study till spring. I was not much pleased with the notion but I was not opposed to the measure.

Sept. 4th (1798):-I went to Schenectady intending to study in the college. My father being with me paid two dollars and a half to the treasurer for my entrance, and agreed with Major Wright to board me for one dollar and seventy-five cents a week; on condition that I should find firewood and candles and have a proportional allowance for every time I should be absent two days or more at once.

I saw Col. Taylor, a tutor in college the same day; he told me I need not appear at college till next morning. At nine o'clock next morning I was ordered to review vulgar fractions, and I expected to recite them at five o'clock in the afternoon as I was then to appear at college again. I borrowed a book and studied diligently till the time appointed for my attendance, but the rules were expressed so differently from those I had been used to, that I was sensible I was not prepared to recite, but I had cause to rejoice that it was not required.

Mr. Yates at that time gave me orders to study a lesson in the introduction of Mrse's Geography, and Col. Taylor ordered me to recite arithmetic next morning if I could get a copy of the rules of mensuration. I could not procure a copy so long as I desired, and supposing fractions were also to be recited, I divided my studies to attend to them likewise.

Col. Taylor gave me one question to do next morning; but being some embarrassed I made a mistake in the work, and was a good deal grieved at my error. I then studied my afternoon lesson diligently, but attempting to recite to a student, I was unable to answer some questions and pronounced a Latin word wrong, at which he laughed, and made me believe I should be a laughing stock to all the students, but I studied the harder and as there were few in the room at recitation I made out pretty well.

On the 7th I recited to Col. Taylor and performed the only sum that was given me accurately, and my bashfulness began to abate.

There was no recitation the 8th but I studied as much as usual tho I thot I made small proficiency considering I had been over the same branches of science; however, I was still so conceited as to believe that I could, by close application learn as fast as students in general, I found the students so universally profane that I feared their company would extinguish all sense of religion or morality. I went to meeting the 9th according to the laws of college, and studied some when at my lodgings. The 10th I bought a chair for the use of the college agreeable to the directions Mr. Yates gave me a few days before. After this I generally did middling well at recitation, and got thro' the introduction the 11th after which the study of Salmon's Geography succeeded in its place.

I sometimes thot the students in general endeavored to deride me, but I little regarded it unless I gave them a cause.

In the evening of the 12th, a student who boarded at the same house as myself, came into the room where I was, and began to ridicule me about my recitation saying he heard I recited wonderfully, and could point out any place on a map with surprizing expedition, etc. My roommate joined him in black-guarding, and they told me what other people said of me and of my father, and I supposed they blended truth with falsehood. But they dwelt chiefly upon the oddity of my words and actions endeavoring to make everything I said or did appear ridiculous.

I said but little for some time, but at length my indignation compelled me to speak. I, however, moderated my anger as much as I could tho' it was undoubtedly discernible. I told them that I thot they used me most ungenerously, that I supposed as they had studied all their lives they thot themselves exclusively learned and polite, and meant to ridicule all whose manners were not similar to theirs; but that in their conduct to me I thot they exhibited little, base minds and ill-breeding. They then appeared to try to palliate their conduct and said they did not intend to insult or offend me. But I was not so easily reconciled for their conduct before had been almost as offensive. I, therefore, determined to have as little connexion with them as possible, but to appear friendly to them and make them my friends or at least prevent them from being my enemies.

In the afternoon of the 14th I had not my lesson very well and I thot Mr. Yates gave me a hint that I should attend more strictly. That evening I went home but carried so much of my lesson in writing and studied at home so much that on Monday the 17th I found I could recite pretty well and my fallen courage revived.

By this time I was so much used to making and hearing mistakes that I was not so much confounded when I erred and, of course, could sooner recover after I had stumbled.

In the afternoon of the 19th there being more persons present than I expected and my room-mate smiling as I rose to recite, threw me into some embarrassment, and I recited hardly well as common. But at night my room-mate said I recited with a class that was reviewing and equalled the best of them, and the other student against whom I had an antipathy said I studied arithmetic also with a class that was reviewing and was not deficient in that. I was so vain as to believe that they told nearly the truth and as Major Wright was present I showed no dislike; but I believed they meant it as a burlesque and, of course, it renewed my hatred.

By the 20th I found that I must undergo an examination next week on the studies which I had attended, and this added to my former anxiety. I still found I was ridiculed by the students more than was common, but it was such a general practice to deride each other that I regarded it less, and considered the custom as some palliation for the many seeming insults I received from my companions on account of my little, oddities.

Before examination I endeavored to be excused from it myself, but I found I could not and prepared with diligence.

In the afternoon of the 25th I was examined slightly in fractions and progression. There were a great many people present, and I was some embarrassed and my voice faltered as I spoke, but the questions being easy I answered tolerably correct.

The next forenoon I was examined in Geography and was not any affrighted but in the course of the examination I made two small mistakes and one great one; however I was not much embarrassed even by that.

The 28th in the forenoon I attended to hear the senior class examined on philosophy, after which all the students met and the president told who ~~were~~ were remarkable for their knowledge in each class, and then dismissed us for the session. I returned home that afternoon*****.

The 29th of October I returned to Schenectady to study with some reluctance, and boarded where I did before, concluding it was best to show no dislike. I did nothing more that day than to return a book to the library and take out another for my brother to peruse, and to hear the order of study for that session, which the president read at evening.

I found I needed an American Geography, but I had none and knew not where to get one; so that I was in the utmost perplexity. Tho' the present want was trifling, yet a consideration of my ignorance, and fear that I should be continually in such a dilemma for want of necessities made me very unhappy. However, my room-mate got me a Geography next morning, and I was able to recite well by 9 o'clock. Another difficulty then occurred for it was necessary I should have Goldsmith's History of Rome to study, but after some trouble I procured that also the same evening, and afterwards generally recited tolerable well tho' with some embarrassment. In the evening of the 31st the other student against whom I had a dislike, moved into the room in which I lived. I did not consent or like to receive this new room-mate but he was so urgent and my old room-mate so fond of the project that I gave way without making strenuous opposition. Our new associate then found money for a treat, and I went and got cherry brandy, for a drink. My companions drank and were merry, but I was not raised by liquor or company tho' I drank some and felt tolerable healthy.

I returned to Schenectady the 5th but recited poorly that morning and the next afternoon, but my errors did not give me so much uneasiness as at first, yet I was not troubled on that account, and fancied that the students were still inclined to deride me.

I practiced walking considerable distance every evening about dusk in melancholy solitude. I had no companion that I loved or esteemed, and I looked on the time between that and commencement as very long, and to me almost insupportable in my present situation, but I determined to endure if my health would permit.

Having obtained leave of Doct. Smith, I went home the 9th and tarried till the 12th but the dread of returning to Schenectady and the fear of reciting poorly next morning prevented me from enjoying the comfort I might otherwise have experienced. I did not permit myself to study common sciences freely on the Sabbath but they still employed most of my thots.

At this time and a while before I attended to three kinds of study, viz., Geography, Roman History and Arithmetic; I generally made out, however, to recite tolerable well, but on the 13th I failed of doing well on any branch of science. I studiously avoided showing any discontent, but I was really very uneasy and melancholy, for I did not associate with any of the students and my dislike to my room-mates still continued, tho' they did not abuse me as at first, and I endeavored to appear reconciled.

The 15th I felt rather more unwell and melancholy than usual, my companions derided me more than they had done for some time previous, but the students in general took no notice of me unless for their sport.

I did not go home that week, and on Saturday the 17th ~~following~~ happening to converse about the literary societies with Mr. Griggs, my first room-mate who was a member of the Adelpic Society, I told him I would be willing to enter the same, and he said he would propose me for a member at next meeting.

The 18th I went three times to church, and spent the rest of the day in reading, studying, or hearing the jests, swearing and folly of my companions, which was to me very disagreeable, but I showed little disapprobation of their conduct and in some measure joined in their sports, however, I thot I should be quite as anxious to go home every week for the future as I had hitherto been.

I studied American Geography at that time but I found I neither did or could understand it as well as many of the class, for those who had purchased rights in the library, had the use of an Atlas, which contained complete maps of all parts of America, but I had no opportunity of seeing those maps except in time of recitation. My nervous disorder did not hurt me much only as it kept me in constant fear of those shocks,***** I was obliged to use considerable exercise that week, it being my time to find wood and keep fire according to an agreement between myself and my room-mates.

The 20th I did not know my lessons quite as well as common, and I received calmly a stern look and gentle frown from Doct. Smith.

The class finished the study of Roman History the 21st and we then began to study Rhetoric. In the evening of the 22nd Doct. Smith's youngest son was at the room in which I lodged; of him I learned that Doct. Smith himself made sport for his children on account of my oddities, saying he believed I thot him to be deaf; for once when I asked his liberty to go home I spoke as if talking to a deaf man. I also understood that he took it upon him to make some observations on my manner of walking, and said that I carried my arms so stiff that I appeared like a drowned rat. I was sensible I did not walk genteely, nor speak very low when I asked to go home, but I thot that he could not be so ignorant as to think my speaking too loud was caused by disrespect; and as I did not go there to be taught how to walk, I thot it none of his proper concern. I disliked living in town the more after hearing this news, but I showed no resentment for the insults I suffered.

The 23d I got liberty of Col. Taylor to go home any Friday evening and stay till Monday. Accordingly, I crossed the Mohawk river on the ice, and went home that evening.

I studied but little when at home, and I dreaded to return to be an object of derision for all in the seminary, and to live with such profane blackguards as my companions, but I concluded to make no complaint; and on Monday I returned. We that day finished studying Geography and I had no study left on hand but Rhetoric. I was then directed to procure a book and study the constitutions of the States, but I could not learn where such a book as I wanted might be got, but I made out to borrow one to study the first lesson in. However, I had not studies enough on hand and found it more tedious to be at leisure than to be hurried.

The 27th I recited constitution with the senior class and observed with sorrow that I was much inferior to others; for I had been accustomed to think I could learn as fast as students in general, but I could not suppose the superior advantages of these students gave them all the superiority they professed. By the advice of my room-mate, W.V. Derhyden, I had sent to Albany for a book containing the constitutions, but the errand was once forgotten and it was thot doubtful whether such a book could be got if enquiry had been made.

My need of another book, the dullness I found in myself about learning and the contemptible station I supposed I possessed in the opinion of the tutor and students, aggravated by my ~~having~~ lost an opportunity of procuring such a book as I wanted, and being in disagreeable company and lodgings; all these circumstances made me sick of the place and employment but I was determined if possible to persevere till spring. I had more time than I could bear to employ in studying my lessons, and I, therefore, began to write Algebra, tho' I did not expect to study it with the class.

After having taken considerable trouble and much anxiety, I received such a book as I needed from the stageman in the evening of the 29th and I applied closely to it till 9 o'clock next morning and I then recited again with the senior class, and was again caused to think more highly of my abilities, for I thot I recited far more accurately than some of the class.

That evening which was the last of November, I walked on the ice from the common ferrying place in the Mohawk river to the Bel-place creek, a distance of two or three miles. This was when I was going home, and my parents censured my conduct as presumptuous but the ice appeared sufficiently strong.

I was not quite as well as common the 2nd of December but I returned to Schenectady the 3d and pursued my studies as usual. At this time I only recited Rhetoric every day and constitutions every second day; the class generally did poorly in Rhetoric and we received some reprimands from Mr. Yates, but they had no great effect tho' I endeavored to amend. On the 5th I got a sash or students' badge having for some time neglected and hoped to escape doing it because I belonged to no class, but Mr. Yates commanded me to procure one, and I got such a one as denoted that I studied with the second and third classes, but I always sat and was numbered with the second, tho' I sometimes studied with the fourth.

We still continued to recite Rhetoric incorrectly and some of the students complained that we had too long lessons; Mr. Yates said that he should be sorry to burden us excessively by giving too hard tasks but he should think we might learn only by hearing what was said at recitation. I was at home the 8th and 9th and tho' I had books which I might have studied in, I was not concerned about reciting bad as I was at first, and I enjoyed myself much better and studied with more ease both at home and in town.

It being bad travelling on account of a deep snow on the 10th my father carried me to Schenectady again in a sleigh.

Mr. Yates told us we must one of the class, give in a piece of composition to some of the faculty every morning after the 12th, and the proper time for each to give in his production was to be determined by the initial letter of his name. I was glad to have an opportunity of improving in composition but I dreaded to have my essays exposed to the sight and ridicule of my tutors and classmates, for I knew my performances would be ridiculous.

December 12th I began to study Algebra, and then attended to Rhetoric and constitutions likewise. I rode home the 14th and studied or wrote my own composition pretty steady the 15th.

The 17th I returned to Schenectady and beside my usual business I gave a piece of my composition to Mr. Yates; he inspected and returned it next day, saying it was very well executed, especially for a person not used to composing; he read a small part of it in presence of the class, and pointed out a defect in one sentence.

I was at first pleased with the approbation he expressed but I afterwards thought it possible he praised my work to encourage me and omitted reading it to save me from the ridicule of the bystanders.

As holy days were to commence the 25th, I thought to go home the 21st and tarry till they were ended; but I was somewhat chagrined and disappointed at being unable to get leave from Mr. Yates for my absence the 24th which was the only day college business was to be performed before holy days commenced. However, I went home the 21st and attended college the 24th, but there were no recitations that day for want of wood. I then took a dislike to Mr. Yates, thinking he had used me with ungenerous severity in obliging me to come there just for the business of that day, and then being so negligent himself as to suffer all business to be neglected for want of wood, when he might so easily have caused it to be procured. Happening that day to converse with Mr. Case who was a member of the Adelpic Society, he offered to propose me as a member next time they should meet, and after some hesitation I told him he might propose me as a non-attending member; which he agreed to do, though he said the society would wish me to attend because people would think it an insignificant affair if the members treated it with neglect. The same evening I returned home, and

afterwards till the end of the year I spent my time in laboring on the farm or in making composition which I found to be the hardest of labor. My pieces appeared so contemptible also when done that I could not be willing to expose them to the strictures of so many critics as were in the Adelpic Society; I, therefore, hoped I should not be admitted, but I concluded that if I was, I would appear pleased and endeavor to content myself with the prospect of improvement that it would afford. At this time I beheld with sorrow that my reference for religion decayed continually and I found that the company and conversation I had at Schenectady would make me an infidel; but I yet practiced private prayer commonly twice a day tho' I sometimes omitted it and was never fervent.

Returned to Schenectady Hanuary 2, 1799, and attended to my studies as usual.

On the evening of the (?) I spoke a piece on the stage for the first time. The students laughed but little while I was speaking, but they afterwards strove to make sport with some particular expression or gesture which I made on the stage. However, I had the vanity to believe I performed pretty well for one so little used to speaking as myself; and as my exhibition made less laughter than I expected I concluded the students and tutors thot it not contemptible. The same evening Mr. Case told me he had proposed me for a member of the Adelpic Society and that I should be elected next time they met without doubt. I thanked him for what he had done but was sorry I had ever offered to join the society.

Col. Taylor being unwell at this time we recited Algebra to Doct. Smith and I made some notorious mistakes which grieved me a good deal for the rest of the class recited pretty well. After this I paid more attention to Algebra and made no more so gross mistakes.

I intended not to go home that week but to write moral philosophy which I expected soon to study with the senior class. At Mr. Yates' desire however I went home the 12th. Happening to converse with my brother about my studies, he advised me not to study very closely but to cultivate the acquaintance of persons of quality and endeavor to be a little more of a gentleman. I was so impressed with the wisdom of his advice that I concluded to pay it some deference, but it was so difficult and disagreeable for me to form new acquaintance, and I had such a mean opinion of the students in general that I knew I should never be seen much in company or be intimate with many of the students.

I went to Schenectady again the 14th and recited Rhetoric for the last time. As it was a general recitation, I had an opportunity of comparing my knowledge with that of others and found it less than I hoped.

The next two days I recited American History but did not know it very well nor recite it very correctly.

After this I employed much of my time in writing Moral Philosophy, having no study on hand, but Algebra which I thot was useless and unimportant to me. In the evening of the 16th a number of students were at our room and drank and swore so infamously that I looked on them with more contempt than before. A student had lately come to college who occupied a room adjoining to ours, and seemed to dislike wine and profanity as much as myself. He offered to receive me into his room and I accepted the proposal with joy; and changed quarters the 25th. I concluded to study the first parts of arithmetic with a class that was then reviewing; and with some difficulty I borrowed a compend and began upon the rule of three the 22nd. I found many of the class could work quicker than myself but I thot none understood the rule better. I continued to employ all my leisure time in writing Moral Philosophy which was so lengthy that I was almost discouraged; tho' Mr. Griggs assisted me thinking one copy would serve us both. In the evening of the 25th I was admitted into the Adeptic Society with Mr. Mills, my room-mate, (Joseph L. Mills), I having been elected a fortnight and he one week before.

I found so little order in the society that I formed no great expectations of improvement or pleasure therein. But I was more displeased when it was proposed that I should acte the part of an awkward servant in a comedy they intended to exhibit at the anniversary of the society on the first of March. The next day I was prevailed upon to write off some of the part assigned to me and to read it as the play was recited, but I did not agree to act it tho' the most shameful flattery was used to persuade me.*** I employed my time so well that day that beside doing what I have related above I studied Algebra some and wrote thirty pages quarto of Moral Philosophy before nine o'clock at night.

In reciting Moral Philosophy the 18th I answered a question which Doct. Smith put to me, so oddly that it excited much laughter and caused the Doct. himself to shake his sides; but I was not so much disconcerted knowing the answer was proper, as was allowed. The 19th I began to study Geometry and recited nothing else that day.

On Thursday the 31st I began to recite Moral Philosophy and then had to attend to three kinds of study.

I met with the society in the evening of the first of February and was surprised to hear a debate argued so indifferently by persons whom I thot more ingenuous, but I made no display of my own ability, tho' I was afterwards sorry I did not, thinking I might have advanced as much argument as others did, and perhaps gained some credit. I was again urged to take the part in the comedy and I concluded I would tho' I did not positively consent that evening. I went home the 2d and returned again on the 4th. My studies then were Arithmetic, Algebra and Moral Philosophy, but after the 7th Arithmetic was neglected. In reciting Moral Philosophy I made no great mistakes, but I did not recite very well and I concluded that I had not a philosophical genius nor abilities competent to the study.****I went to college again the 11th (being home from the 9th) and studied Algebra and Moral Philosophy thro the week.

Having finished the writing I had to do, it was my intent to go home the 15th, but I was prevailed upon to stay that evening and act my part in the comedy when the Adepic Society should meet.

At evening the Presbytery was met in college, and one of the speakers for that evening being unprepared desired me to speak in his stead, as I was after him. I was so weak that I made the attempt, but I did not know my piece quite well enough and being much confused, I skipped some and spoke the rest so that it could hardly be understood. My mind naturally prone to uneasiness was by this adventure thrown into the greatest tumult, I was ashamed to have appeared so meanly before those gentlemen and it troubled me the more because I might have escaped speaking if my reason had operated. I went to church that evening and heard Mr. Nott preach, but my appearance on the stage continually ran in my mind, and I thot I should hardly even be able to look in the face of any one who saw my actions and knew my folly that evening.

The 20th I did not feel very well.*****The presbytery was present that evening also but by Doct. Smith's order speaking was omitted. This likewise aggravated my distress, for I found I might have got rid of speaking before them at all if my rashness had not prevented.

I tarried in town the 23rd and acted my part in the comdey before Col. Taylor and Mr. Yates.

In the evening (the 25th) I attended society, and Messrs. Smith and Reed entered as non-attending members. These gentlemen had respectable characters, and when I found that our society was thot worthy of their notice, I entertained some hopes of increasing my knowledge and gaining the esteem of my acquaintance, but my last week's conduct seemed to place an insupportable barrier in my way to honor and esteem. The study of Arithmetic was resumed the 26th and I attended to that again also. Tho' I had some knowledge of Geometry before I did not recite that or philosophy very well, but tho' the philosophical class was sometimes censured for neglect, I did not take any of the reproof to myself for it seemed directed to those who hoped soon to graduate. At the request of a committee appointed by the Adelpic Society, the whole day of the first of March was given us to prepare for celebrating the Anniversary of our society. I had endeavored for two days previous to this to inform my brother when the anniversary would be celebrated and to desire his attendance. But he happened in town that evening accidentally, and went in and saw the performance. Two Orations were spoken, a tragedy called "The Revenge" was acted and a comedy entitled "She Stoops to Conquer, or The Mistakes of a Night," was also exhibited. Col. Taylor assisted with great assiduity to prompt and prepare dresses both in the day time and at evening; and the business was mostly performed with art and order. My part was short and easy, but it somewhat galled my ambition that I could not appear in a better character tho' I did not suppose it a disgrace to act the part of a servant. After the exercise was ended I rode home with my brother, who was much pleased with the evening's exhibition.

I returned to Schenectady on the 4th and on the 5th I finished the study of Moral Philosophy, and I then concluded that I finally acquitted myself tolerably well on that study. After this I recited only Geometry and Arithmetic and found it needed more attention than I expected to enable me to recite accurately, and tho' I thot myself almost master of Arithmetic before I did not finally recite so correctly as some of the class.

In the evening of the 8th I attended society, but no business was done except~~in~~ adjusting the expense and business of the anniversary celebration and allotting to each the business for next evening. My part of expense and quarterly payment amounted to 5/4 which I then paid.

I was at home the 10th and as Mr. Yates preached in the neighborhood I went to hear him, as did the most of my family. My father afterwards told me that Mr. Yates and he happening to mention me in their conversation, my father observed that I was very bashful; to which Mr. Yates replied that I had grown more bold and had once spoken remarkably well on the stage.*****

I did not go home that week but besides reading and studying some the 16th I wrote the remarks Doct. Smith had made on the constitutions and directed to be studied. That evening Robert F. Smith was at our room and it was proposed to have a debate. Mr. Mills was to argue for the authenticity of the Scriptures, I against it. Mr. Griggs to make remarks and Mr. Smith to decide. Accordingly Mr. Mills opened the debate and I replied with little sense or deep sophistry but Mr. Griggs favored me and Mr. Smith opposed him and I was ashamed of what I had advanced. It appeared so contemptible in comparison of the deeper sophistry and reason which they used. I was also afraid that Mr. Smith would think I did really disbelieve the Scriptures because I had almost asserted that for certain reasons it appeared evident to me the Scriptures was false, but I made such assertions for want of sophistry and at the same time fully believed the Scriptures, tho' Mr. Griggs, who was a considerable sophist, frequently use his art to propagate deism.

In the evening of the 18th Mr. Griggs, who belonged in Virginia, told us he meant to start for home the 20th. Tho' I had never entertained a great esteem or friendship for him, the knowledge of his intended departure gave me a kind of disagreeable sensation. I mentioned the resolve I made soon after I came to town when my two companions insulted and ridiculed me and I told them in the words of Zange, that when I received the abuse I said to myself, "Memory mark down that," and let it not be obliterated while I live, tho' I will forgive, and never seek revenge. Both of them being present said they did not really intend to abuse me but they knew they went too far, and had heartily repented it, and talked of it with remorse between themselves. This again assuaged my resentment, and as I had lived peaceably with them and they had used me well during the winter, I really wished them prosperity; but I still remembered the treatment they first gave me, as an exhibi-

tion of their real meanness and as proof that they would be apt to abuse anyone whose friendship or hatred could neither bebenefit or injure them.

The 20th Mr. Griggs left Schenectady and I bade as I supposed an everlasting farewell. I was glad to be rid of his sophistry and profaneness, but he had so many agreeable properties that his departure occasioned such a mixture of joy and regret in my mind that I hardly knew which was predominant.

The 22nd Major Wright informed me that as he should soon move I had best seek other lodgings by the first of next week; accordingly, I went and agreed with Mr. Haight, who was to board me for two dollars a week, having the whole time I might be gone reckoned out by the meal. I went home that evening and my father expressed so much wonder that boarding should be so high in town, that I feared he grudged the expense I made him, but he did not say he disapproved of my conduct.

Before this time I had again spoken on the stage, but my anxiety to retrieve my character as a speaker and my confusion at appearing where I had conducted so ridiculously before the presbytery, prevented me from performing with so much gracefulness as I might otherwise have done. Tho' this exhibition was far less ridiculous than the former it served to convince me that I should never attain excellence in speaking, tho' I had no natural impediment but bashfulness.

When I returned to my study the 25th I left my compend of Trigonometry and Surveying at home. As I was to recite on these sciences every day, the want of a compend was very troublesome, but as we were then reviewing, I made out to borrow, for a short time, and recited tolerable well, till I received my own compend the 26th.

We began to review Geography the 27th. In the afternoon it fell to my lot to demonstrate the principles of sectoral lines on a blackboard but I did it so poorly that it made me fear to be examined; and on the 28th I found myself so much at a loss for want of words to communicate what I knew that I thot much of leaving college before examinations.

I went home the 29th and on my return to town the first of April the ice was still so strong and dry that I walked from the lower ferry to town about the difference of a mile on the ice, and sleighs also crossed safely. The class began the study of Navigation that day and I borrowed a book and proceeded with them afterwards, studying Geography and Arithmetic.

The examination of the senior class being finished the 5th, when we were expecting to hear the decision of the faculty respecting it, Doct. Smith informed us that they had concluded to have none hear the result of that or the next examination but such as were concerned in it. This information induced me to be examined that I might know the success of the students, but as I should be no more a student after examination nor any more concerned in the business of the college, I feared they would not permit me to hear the result even in that case so that I was still undetermined. That evening I ~~thought~~ brought in a piece of composition on luxury, which I read in our society; it excited no laughter and there were no defects shown by anyone, but I fancied it received some approbation, and I that evening received at least the common tokens of respect. It was now so late in the season that I thot it doubtful whether I should be able to cross the river on Monday to return if I went home that week, but the ice was yet so strong that teams were driven over without fear.

Having but little to do the 6th, I visited some of the students, and drank with some who resorted to our room, but I took but little pleasure in their company tho' they used me very well, but they seemed scarcely to consider me as an equal, and I was conscious of my own inferiority in vivacity and polite manners. Toward night I took a solitary walk, and when I returned finding no one in our room I had time to give myself some rest and indulge my pensive disposition which had again become prevalent.

At evening before prayers I happened in college with but one other student, when Doct. Smith came in. He asked me why I had ~~not~~ begun to study sooner and undertaken to go thro' a regular course of study. I told him it was never my ~~intention~~ intent. He then showed the advantage of a liberal education and recommended it highly. I objected against it that many did not make good use of the knowledge they got by that means; this he said was an additional argument why those who were well disposed should increase their knowledge; but I meant to apply my observation to those also who neglected to use their learning as I thot I should if liberally educated. I was a little ashamed of the answers I made in this conversation, but it pleased my vanity that Doct. Smith should regard me so much as to use his influence to have me tarry in college.

The 15th I finished reviewing Geography and had a greater opinion of my knowledge in that review than I had when we studied it before, tho' I did not recite very well the last time.

After this we reviewed Rhetoric in three lessons, which I recited pretty correctly. For a few days about this time I had only two kinds of study to attend to, but I was most of the time crowded with studies while reviewing.

My turn to speak came again the 16th. And I delivered a short ~~xxxxxxxx~~ piece without exciting ridicule or admiration to my knowledge. The piece I spoke was not very animating, for I feared to attempt speaking an energetic ~~xxxxxxxx~~ harangue, lest I should be more deficient in delivering it properly. I however looked upon this exhibition as the best I had made, but every time I thot of my oratorical performances, it reminded me of my exhibtion before the presbytery and over-whelmed me with the most grievous shame.

About this time Col. Taylor took an opportunity to ask me if I intended to be examined; and on my telling him I was not determined, he ~~xxxxxxxx~~ advised me to be examined as he said I had read my studies pretty accurately, and this method would be most satisfactory; I therefore concluded to act as he advised.

The 19th I began to study Chronology with a class that was reviewing it, and tho' I had never studied it before I made out tolerable well, but having three other studies to attend to the same day I was sensible I did not understand my lesson as well as I might.

I studied some the 20th and 21st and on the 22nd. I again made four tolerable good recitations. I was not able to answer every question in History and Chronology, but I thot I should be as likely to pass good examinations on all my studies as the generality of the classes. Examination was begun the 23d but I did not have any business at college that day. I therefore studied most of the day to prepare for the next day's exercise. The 29th I had four sittings at examination and was examined in Geography, Geometry, Rhetoric, Algebra and Arithmetic. I made no considerable mistake in any of them, but as I had been destitute of a book ~~on~~ Algebra, I had not reviewed the problems and when I took one from the table, it being a pretty bad one, I was some puzzled with it, but I did it without help, and presented it to Doct. Smith. He asked me with a tone of admiration if that was the first I had done. I pertly answered in the affirmative and Col. Taylor said perhaps it was a long one; Doct. Smith made no reply, but only this wounded my vain ambition, and one of the most ignorant of the freshman class endeavored to ridicule my performance, but his satire added but little to my disturbance.

The 25th being a fast day no college business was performed but I went to meeting twice, and studied a good deal, particularly History and Chronology which I knew I did not well understand.

I had three sittings at examination the 26th; part of the time in presence of my brother-in-law and brother. I did tolerable well except in History, in which I was prodigiously stumped (as the term was), my brother and some others being present aggravated my misfortune. However, I was not so confounded as to be unable to tell what I knew, but when I afterwards recollected my deficiency it gave me much pain.

When examination was ended the students were ordered to retire a short time and soon return at the ringing of the bell and hear the result and attend prayers. We did so, and I went into college again with the rest.

No one was put back in any study upon which he had been examined; nor was anyone pronounced remarkable on any science; but the names of those who advanced were mentioned; the names of those also who properly belonged to no class, were all mentioned as having passed an acceptable examination; except my own name, which was not mentioned at all, nor anything said of me either good, bad or indifferent. I thought it probable that the cause of this neglect was that they all knew I did not intend to study any longer; but it gave me a realizing sense of my insignificance, and I thought it might very naturally be construed as a hint that I was out of my proper sphere when in college.

I then prepared to start for home as I intended before; a number of the students being at the house from whence I started, shook hands with me and bade me farewell in a frolicsome mode; when I had mounted, they shouted so that my horse went off upon a gallop or rather in a flutter, while they were laughing. I hardly knew how to understand this conduct but I imparted it rather to a merry humor than to intentional ridicule, and left them all without entertaining hatred or real friendship for any of them.

I then retired to the farm and endeavored to banish all thoughts of ever studying in any seminary again.*****

The first of May I went to Commencement, but did not wear the badge of a student nor walk in procession with them from the college to church. I had little conversation that day with any of the students, as I did not try to crowd myself into their company, and none of them sought to make me a companion. One of the students who had entered the senior class strongly advised me to return and study Euclid and Natural Philosophy that summer, as he said he thot I had a peculiar good genius for those sciences. But I concluded to retire to the farm and live forgetting and forgot if possible.

I went to Schenectady the 13th and visited some of the students, with whom I had been formerly acquainted. They all seemed happy to see me and upon their invitation I tarried all night and attended at the meeting of the Adelpic Society. By this means I formed some new acquaintance and by chance gathered so much confidence as to speak a few words ~~an~~ the extemporary debate.

I went home the next day and began to teach school.

I went to Schenectady again the evening of the 19th when the anniversary of the Philomathean Society was celebrated.

My father went to Schenectady soon after this (about same month in May or June) and on his return, he told me that he happened to have some conversation with Col. Taylor and that the Col. said, I was about the best student in college according to my advantages and advised my father to send me there another winter at least.

I looked upon this as most fulsome flattery, remembering that they did not offer me a certificate of progress, of which I had some expectation. I therefore rejected the idea of returning with contempt.

June 22d a couple of students came to my father's and found me in a dirty farmer's garb, but they tarried and conversed with me a short time very civilly, and one of the informed me, that two new members were admitted into the Adelpic Society the preceding evening.

I was glad to hear that the society flourished and was somewhat sorry I did not extend my acquaintance more when I was in Schenectady, yet in my present situation, it gave me a secret disagreeable sensation to see any of my former acquaintance; and I was so inconsistent with myself that I wished for an honorable dismissal from the Adelpic Society.

After school was out the 5th (March, 1800) I went to Schenectady to find at what time and in what manner the anniversary of the Adelpbic Society would be celebrated. When I came in company of several students, I being in coarse clothes and they dressed very neat, I felt as much embarrassment as ever I had done on account of dress; for I was not very subject to uneasiness on that score. I was, however, treated with great civility by the students when I saw and got a ticket of admission from the secretary to attend myself; and was also assured that my sister would be freely admitted if she came. I lodged that night with Mr. Mills and returned to my school the next morning.

After school the 7th I went to town with my brother and his wife and sister. We were readily admitted to see the celebration of the Adelpbic Society, but I being in a back room with the society could not see the play without standing up most of the time.

NOTE: With this Diary were the following articles in manuscript:

1. An Elegy Written in May, 1801. Closed with an acrostic "Benjamin Haight."
2. A Discourse on TIME; Delivered at a quarterly meeting of Clifton Park Library Company, January 10, 1809.
3. A Discourse read at Library Meeting, Jan. 14, 1806.
4. Poem "On the Folly of Wooing" July, 1801.
5. "Vindication of Suicide" May 4, 1804.

1800

DAVID GARNSEY

The owners of the Diary of David Garnsey are his grandchildren.

Descendants of David Garnsey who have attended Union College are:

Louis R. Garnsey, Class of 1884
De Forest V. Garnsey, Class of 1913
Caldwell, Class of

In this Diary, Mr. Garnsey says that he was born in Dutchess County.

UNION COLLEGE ALUMNI RECORD

RETURN TO: GRADUATE COUNCIL
UNION COLLEGE
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

UNION DEGREE 1800
CLASS OF

1. NAME IN FULL David Garnsey
2. SON OF (A) FATHER Natham Garnsey
(B) MOTHER Honey Hunt
3. BORN 1781 AT Halfmoon, N. Y.
4. DIED August 30th 1831 AT Clifton Park, N. Y.
5. MARRIED Esther Rodgers ON Mar. 8, 1806
(A) WIFE WAS BORN 1785 AT Weschester Co.
(B) WIFE DIED Dec. 23^d 1836 AT Clifton Park, N. Y.

6. CHILDREN:	NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH
	<u>Honey Hunt-Garnsey</u>	<u>Apr. 9, 1807</u>	<u>Aug. 9, 1842</u>
	<u>Maria</u>	<u>Aug. 24, 1808</u>	<u>1826</u>
	<u>Lewis Rodgers</u>	<u>Feb. 25, 1810</u>	<u>Apr. 12, 1878</u>
	<u>Esther</u>	<u>Jan. 14, 1812</u>	<u>Nov. 13, 1838</u>
	<u>Natham</u>	<u>Jan. 28, 1814</u>	<u>Aug. 10, 1864</u>
	<u>Livia</u>	<u>Oct. 18, 1815</u>	<u>Nov. 1896</u>
	<u>Robert</u>	<u>Apr. 8, 1817</u>	<u>1837</u>
	<u>Eliza Starr</u>	<u>May 1, 1820</u>	<u>Aug. 29, 1842</u>
	<u>David</u>	<u>Apr. 19, 1822</u>	<u>May 20, 1842</u>
	<u>Pliny</u>	<u>Apr. 20, 1823</u>	<u>July 27, 1849</u>

7. PREPARED FOR COLLEGE AT
8. COLLEGE LIFE: (A) ~~FRATERNITY MEMBERSHIP~~
(B) LITERARY OR SOCIAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP
(C) CLASS OFFICES
(D) COLLEGE PRIZES AND HONORS

9. OTHER COLLEGES ATTENDED
10. DEGREES
11. PROFESSION
12. BUSINESS
13. MILITARY HISTORY AND TITLES

14. PUBLIC OFFICES HELD, WITH DATES.

15. MEMBER OF PROFESSIONAL, LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC, SOCIETIES

16

Wallace P. Garsney
P. A. A Son of David Garsney attended
Wealeys University & I think other sons
attended Brown, one daughter was
present at Casemore Sem.

17. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION

Methodist

18. POLITICAL PREFERENCE

Republican

19. BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Arthur, Nancy, Lennie & Esther

20. RELATIVES OF SELF OR WIFE AT UNION

Lennie Garsney, grand son

De Forest Garsney, great grand son

21. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. (USE THIS SPACE FOR ANY OTHER BIOGRAPHICAL DATA OR TO SUPPLEMENT ANY OF THE ABOVE ANSWERS.)

Minion Esther Caldwell, a great great grand daughter
took the Extension course at Union last year

22. INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY

Wallace P. Garsney

STREET ADDRESS

Academy Ave

David Garney

1800

David Garnsey 1800